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# THE AMERICAN MCALL RECORD

Devoted to the  
interests of  
La Mission Populaire  
Évangélique de France

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THE AMERICAN MCALL ASSOCIATION  
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# THE AMERICAN McALL RECORD

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In Remembrance of the Founders  
and with Compliments to the Present  
Officers and Members of the  
**Philadelphia Auxiliary**  
of the  
**American McAll Association**  
1880 - 1930



Reverend Robert Whitaker McAll, D.D., the founder of the *Mission Populaire Evangélique de France* which since his death, in 1893, has borne his name

# The AMERICAN McALL RECORD

VOLUME XXXVIII

MAY, 1930

NUMBER 3

## THE FORTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING

of the

### AMERICAN McALL ASSOCIATION

will be held at the

### HOTEL PENNSYLVANIA

Chestnut and Thirty-ninth Streets, Philadelphia

Wednesday and Thursday

May 7th and 8th

Chairman of Hospitality

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1713 Sansom Street

Philadelphia, Pa.

Junior Hostess

MRS. LAWRENCE C. HICKMAN

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Convention Theme

"BREAKING DOWN THE WALLS"

Among the speakers will be Professor André Morize, of Harvard University, whose topic will be "International Friendship."

The evening session will be a reception to Monsieur Chastand who will show moving pictures of the Vacation Colonies of the Mission.

As the "Record" goes to press, word comes that the National Board of the American McAll Association has appointed a new representative in the person of Mr. Clarence G. Bittner.

Mr. Bittner served from 1914 to 1918 in France with the *Foyers du Soldat*. For three years he was associated with Dr. John R. Mott on the International Committee of the Y. M. C. A.

For some months, Mr. Bittner has been engaged in a survey of the *Mission Populaire* in company with the director, M. Chastand, with whom, since the latter's arrival in the United States, he has visited a number of the American auxiliaries.

Delegates to the Annual Meeting will have the pleasure of meeting the new representative.

### HERE AND THERE

The attention of all 1930 summer visitors to Paris who wish to get in touch with the McAll Mission is called to the following items:

The Central Bureau is located at 1, *rue Pierre Levée* (Paris XI<sup>e</sup>), five minutes walk south-east from the *Place de la République*, along the *Avenue de la République*. The telephone is: *Roquette 38-70 (Mission Populaire Evangelique de France)*.

Visitors are urged to communicate with the bureau two or three days in advance, in order to be able to see to the best advantage the Mission's Paris stations, not all of which are functioning in mid-summer. Friends with only a limited time are herewith advised that in order to meet the Paris workers intimately, they should go to "*Pierre Levée*," on Friday afternoon at 2 o'clock, to the Workers' Prayer-Meeting.

Saturday afternoon is the most unfavorable time for a visit, Saturday being a school day in Paris and *concierges* are at their week-end housecleaning.

There is always a preaching service at *Pierre Levée*, at 10:30, on Sunday morning and Daily Vacation Bible Schools are held in the late afternoons at the *Maison Verte*, 129 *rue Marcadet (Montmartre)* and at the Communistic center in *Arcueil, Vieux Chemin de Villejuif*, two miles south of the *Porte d'Orléans*.

Up to the first of August there are splendid meetings to be seen, especially on Sundays and Thursdays, at Fives-Lille (165 *Rue Pierre Legrand*); at Roubaix (123 *Boulevard de Belfort*); at Rouen (183 *Rue St. Julien*).

For information with regard to the Chapel Boats, inquiries should be directed to the bureau.

Between the first of July and the first of October, hundreds of the Mission's children are in the Vacation Colonies and friends wishing to visit these Colonies should also communicate with the bureau.

Literature in reference to the Mission will always be found in the vestibules of the Pro-Cathedral, in *Avenue Georges V*, and the new American Church, on *Quai d'Orsay*.

In a special bulletin on France, issued by The Central Bureau for Relief of the Evangelical Churches of Europe, a quotation is made from an article by Pastor Charles Merle d'Aubigné, President of the *Société Centrale Evangélique*:

"The conditions in which we are pursuing our work in France are rapidly changing. In fact, we have seen since the war, in our country, in the spiritual and religious realm a complete transformation. The materialistic and agnostic philosophy which, with Taine and Renan, had reigned supreme during fifty years, has been replaced by another infinitely more respectful of the tenets of the Christian faith and mindful of the spiritual needs of man. The Roman Catholic Church, which had lost its hold on the mass of the French people, is developing a remarkable activity in all spheres of human enterprise. \* \* \* The working classes and peasantry are still generally indifferent or hostile, but the well-to-do and educated are being won back rapidly to the influence of the Church.

"This change of atmosphere is, naturally, affecting our own work. The days are past when mass movements toward Protestantism took place among the Roman Catholic population and ex-priests sought admittance into our Reformed ministry. Our propaganda has to adapt itself to the new conditions and our enrollment of converts has to be made one by one. But there is no wavering amongst us of the conviction that our duty and our privilege is to bring the Gospel of Jesus Christ to our people."

In enumerating the various evangelical agencies at work in France, including *La Cause*, the McAll Mission, the Reformed Evangelical Church and the Paris Missionary Society, Pastor Merle d'Aubigné alludes to the work of the Mission's new *Fraternité* among the Communists at Arcueil among whom "several hostile families have been won over" and adds, "The hall has had to be enlarged to contain all those who wish to attend the meetings."

The last issue of *Echos et Nouvelles*, the tri-monthly publication of *La Mission Populaire*, contains a half-tone of which the editor writes: "Our readers will not understand at first sight the meaning of this photograph. Under a rain of sausages, among hams and chickens, stands the new *Fraternité* of Rouen which a clever butcher made out of lard! 'This is a testimony rendered to our popularity,' wrote M. Lafon in sending the amusing picture to *Pierre Levée*."

One hundred and twenty-eight new members have been added to the French churches through the *Mission Populaire* during the last fiscal year. Memberships in the following organizations number:

Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor .....	989
Thursday and Sunday Bible Schools .....	2,558
Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and Wolfscouts .....	422
Band of Hope .....	282
Blue Cross .....	405

Since the return of M. Guex to Paris, he has been giving the major part of his time to the work of the Mission over which he presided for so many years. At the recent opening of the enlarged *Bienvenue Fraternité*, in Paris, M. Guex was in charge of the exercises. Evidently the remodeled building is much appreciated by the public, for the audiences have grown in size. The average Sunday attendance has reached 125.

The little work, started only a few years since at St. Nazaire as an offshoot from the *Fraternité* at Nantes and with a nucleus of the converts of the lamented M. Sainton, has grown so rapidly under the guidance of M. Garnier, the General Secretary of the Nantes *Fraternité*, that the Committee of the Mission has rented, with an option of purchase, a large lot on which has been erected a big *préau*, or covered playground. It is the Committee's hope to build later a good-sized *Fraternité* on this ground, for the interest of the working-men of the growing industrial city of St. Nazaire is a continuous encouragement. Mlle Ramel, who has already served the Mission at Lille and at St. Quentin, has been appointed as nurse-evangelist to have charge of the work until a director who can give all his time to it is found. It is impossible for M. Garnier to fulfill the double functions which he has been trying to do since the starting of the St. Nazaire work. His position at Nantes is altogether too exacting.

The hall at St. Etienne has been rejuvenated with a fresh coat of paint and a dispensary has been organized. Dr. Menut, of St. Etienne, has agreed to take charge of this with the coöperation of Mme Huguet, a graduate nurse.

The repairs being made on the *Bonne Nouvelle* in the dry-dock at Charenton prevented M. Claerhout from setting up his usual Christmas-tree on the boat where he has been spending much of his time not only in supervising the work of the mechanics, but in doing a goodly amount of work himself. He has taken advantage of the boat's being in dry-dock to revisit



The *Bonne Nouvelle* in drydock. M. Claerhout may be recognized to the left of the group by his smile. Mme Claerhout stands beside him

different villages where he has been in recent years and at several of these, notably La Ferté-sous-Jouarre and at Trilport, held small Christmas celebrations with the aid of some of his converts. These celebrations, he writes, "have enabled us to see what our evangelistic campaigns have actually accomplished as well as to reveal the possibilities for further evangelization in the cities and villages along the Marne."

As RECORD readers will recall, Pastor Hammel, son-in-law of Madame Roustain and for ten years assistant pastor of the church near the Bastille, where Pastor Wagner, the author of "The Simple Life," preached for so long, in order to fulfill the double function of teacher and healer, qualified as a physician. Special expressions of gratitude have reached us in regard to Pastor Hammel's ministry at the dispensary of his church to the children of the *Faubourg St. Antoine* hall. Many of these children bear the stamp of hereditary weakness, or suffer from parental neglect, oftentimes due to the fact that the mothers must work in the factories. Mlle Liénard, the devoted helper at the Faubourg hall, surrounds these little ones with a truly maternal solicitude and it is she who takes them to Dr. Hammel's dispensary.

An item of unusual interest in connection with the Philadelphia Auxiliary's Fiftieth Anniversary is the announcement that the first copy of the AMERICAN MCALL RECORD, of October, 1883, has been reprinted for the occasion and will be on sale during the two days' sessions. The reappearance of the first number of the magazine, now in its forty-eighth year, is a matter at once of historic interest and of personal interest to all of those who have at heart the development of the *Mission Populaire*.

In the same connection, it is of further interest that Miss Harriet Harvey, of the National Board, has prepared a history of the Philadelphia Auxiliary. New Haven set the example a year ago of "hallowing the fiftieth year," an example which Philadelphia now follows and which it is hoped other auxiliaries will follow in their turn by way of illustration of the value of "keeping at it."

Pastor Jalaguier adds an interesting note to his account of the Christmas festival at the *Maison Verte*. "I omitted to say,"

he writes, "that at the children's Christmas-tree a recitation of verses from the account of the Nativity was given by four little Jews, four little Catholics and four little Protestants, a recital which drew forth the warm thanks of Pastor Daniel Couve."

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### THE DIRECTOR OF THE MISSION TO HIS AMERICAN FRIENDS

DEAR FRIENDS:

For two weeks now, I have been on American soil. Already I have had the honor and pleasure of meeting with the National Board and of presenting to its president and officers the messages of gratitude from the Paris Committee. At the moment I am looking forward to the opportunity of visiting a goodly number of the American auxiliaries and to making the personal acquaintance of many friends of the Mission. The welcome already accorded me in New York, Montclair, New Brunswick, Plainfield and Boston has deeply touched me.

It is a little difficult to see just what value my presence may have in your gatherings—"difficult," because of the barrier of language, to tell you all that I would say and, above all, to put the warmth of my heart into my words. My talks must reduce largely to the one word, "Thank-you." On the other hand, my visit will not be useless for the *Mission Populaire*. After having been witness to the living interest which you show for our work, after having received from so many friends marks of encouragement, the director of the Mission will return to France with more ardor than ever for his work and with a greater confidence than ever in the future of that work.

I might sum up the situation of the Mission in the phrase, "We are going ahead." In the same way that our armies were able to advance during the years of the war, thanks to the support of your nation, so the peaceful army of the Mission's workers goes forward, thanks to the help of your faith and of your generosity—in four years Arcueil, *Coqueréaumont*, Rouen and *La Bernerie*, without counting the dispensary at the *Maison Verte*!

You understand then that I come as the interpreter of my co-workers to express to you all their gratitude. Thanks

to you their ministry is rendered more efficient and their radius of action more extended.

I might cite individual testimonies in confirmation of the work accomplished:

"I came here," said a widow laboring to support her family, "to get my provision of strength for the week."

"Without you, our house would be a hell," said the wife of a wretched husband.

"Here I have found that which my heart had need of," declared an anarchist.

The following two moving testimonies show the urgency of the work today among children:

"If I had only known your work when I was young," sighed one woman with regret.

"Here are my children. They must be better than I have been," said the mother of another family.

"To prevent is better than to cure," reads a French proverb. It is necessary to save the children and youth of today from the pernicious influences about them. To this end, nothing we do is comparable to the work of our vacation colonies. To the end of their lives these children will remember their stay in our colonies which have been for them a veritable paradise. Never will they forget the songs sung under the great trees and the prayers offered under the open sky. It is difficult to see God in a hovel, but in the country or by the seaside, surrounded by Christian love, these children feel God very near.

Meeting halls, *fraternités*, boats, automobiles continue faithfully to announce the love of the Heavenly Father. Dispensaries, schools, vacation colonies, *vestiaires*, orphan work, these all are a demonstration of the divine love we seek to make known to God's children.

The Mission works largely among those who have been abandoned by others. It is only Christian love that is able to believe in the salvation of those whom the world declares "lost." Every day souls are saved, families re-united and little children restored to home joys.

The Mission receives support from England, Scotland, Holland, Switzerland, France, Canada and the United States. The total gifts from these sources in the last five years have

amounted to \$495,432. Of this sum, the United States has given \$429,205. You can readily understand that, if your enthusiasm should be relaxed, the Mission would fall on dark days such as Dr. McAll experienced when he was obliged to close many halls and the voice of the Gospel fell away into silence in many cities; but we are assured that we can count on you not only to perpetuate the existing establishments of the Mission, but also to enable us to go forward to the increase of the Kingdom of God.

The outlook which God holds out to us is immense and, as we contemplate it, we are happy to know that the workers in the Mission are not weary of their ministry, that the Mission's friends are not weary of their efforts and that God Himself is not weary of bestowing His blessing upon the Mission which across the sea unites our hearts in prayer and in Christian friendship.

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I add a testimony rendered to our *fraternités*, these "makers of men," as they have been justly called.

A former convict was brought to Nantes accused of a crime of which he was found to be innocent. He asked that he might stay in France. The judge replied, "I cannot grant your request. No one would employ a former convict and presently you would be again in prison." The man's lawyer replied, "I know at Nantes an institution in which men are remade. If your honor will permit it, this man will be confided to *La Fraternité*, where he will be well cared for." The judge consented and the same evening the poor fellow slept at the *Fraternité*. The next day work was found for him and eight days later the man whom his bad habits had landed in jail signed a pledge of total abstinence. Today he is a new man.

EMMANUEL CHASTAND.

New York, March 25, 1930.

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**THE AMERICAN McALL ASSOCIATION AND  
CHRISTIAN UNITY**

For nearly a half-century it has been the modest boast of the American McAll Association, the membership of whose

auxiliaries is made up from a dozen of the different denominations, that the Association was one of the pioneers in inter-denominational work. In other words, the American interest in the McAll Mission in France has been prophetic of a day of closer unity among the churches.

It is interesting to read in this connection, in the *Federal Council Bulletin*, the following from the pen of Bishop Francis J. McConnell, President of the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America. Bishop McConnell writes:

The churches are now coming into a relation of spiritual unity to a greater degree than at any period in the history of Christianity. It would not be too much to say that there is a real spiritual unity between denominations today than there ever was in the old days of the so-called united church—the days before the Reformation. In that old day, the unity was one of formal organization. Today, the unity is one of the inner spirit and of increasing mutual esteem. At some time in the future, this spirit will so increase that it will seek for itself organizational form, which will merely put into outward expression what is already existing in increasing force in the inner spirit. The need of what we call corporate prophecy, that is, prophetic utterances from the vast mind of Christian people, is becoming increasingly evident. If Christianity is to make its contribution to the solution of the larger social, industrial and international questions, it must be able to speak with a united voice. The need for such unified utterances is one of the effective forces working today toward some closer union of the churches.

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**SALLE CENTRALE**  
PASTOR ROBERT LORRIAUX

It becomes increasingly evident how necessary it is that a work of evangelization, in order that its spiritual results may be conserved, should eventuate in a church. Unless our new converts have the benefit of belonging to a church they are apt to be as plants which do not take root in a promising soil. The least upset is apt to uproot them and threaten their religious life. The little group of church members at *Pierre Levée* constitutes a spiritual family where those who were Protestant born, or have become Protestants, feel themselves at home.

There is no barrier between the church and the other branches of the Mission's work. On the contrary, the church fulfills the Mission's final rôle as the heart of all its work, sending the living blood through all the members of the body. Our Sunday morning service and our Sunday School are regularly attended by most attentive audiences. During the year, we have lost the dean of our membership, a man of great

piety who passed on at the age of 85 years. Ten adults have been added to the membership and five younger persons. We are happy to count among these a number of married persons who after a period of detachment from all church life and perhaps from any real religious life felt the need of belonging to a church in order to feed the hunger of their souls. Among the new members is a girl of seventeen who, although she lives in the suburbs, had been coming regularly every Saturday afternoon for two years. The increase of contributions, especially those for mission work in foreign lands, is a testimony to the realization of the meaning of Christian duty.

Once a month, the pastor and his wife have been at home over the tea-cups to all the members of the church who have listened intently to talks on the endeavors of Protestantism at large, talks illustrated with lantern slides.

Our Y. P. S. C. E. has greatly benefited by the return of four of its oldest members from their military service. This moment of return is a decisive one for our young men. Some of them abandon us completely at this period of their lives, disappearing in the crowd of the indifferent, but the members of the Union who rejoin their comrades prove that their attachment to the Mission and to Christ is a thing of reality.

Mlle Savary emphasizes the joy of the weekly Mothers' Meetings at which there are from sixty to eighty of the very poor and aged present. It is, as she says, touching to receive from these dear, old souls a sou or two for foreign missions, as it is also sweet to be able to make a ray of sunlight penetrate into their sad lives. We were obliged this year to reduce the usual Christmas remembrance to each of these, but our "mothers" made no complaint. For the most part, it is the religious side of what we do for them that makes the strongest appeal.

We have continued another year to offer the shelter of a rest room and the chance to eat a hot lunch to working girls of the neighborhood who live too far away to go home at the noon hour. There are about fifty of these girls who show a deep appreciation not only of the comfort they get at *Pierre Levée*, but of the escape thus afforded them from the streets and cheap restaurants.



Visitors to Paris last summer found a new object of interest in the statue of *Ste. Geneviève*, on the *Pont de la Tournelle*. As the half-tone shows, the patron saint of the city with her long robe about the figure of the child symbolizes her vocation as the  
*Protectrice des Enfants de Paris*

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#### THE MISSION IN BRITTANY

*La Semeuse Bretonne*

PASTOR J. SCARABIN

The work at St. Brieuc and for twenty-five miles around has been both happy and good. The preaching of the Cross under the following forms has been heard in many different places and under varying conditions.

The wife of a local city employee, a very Catholic woman, overwhelmed by the thought of the uncertainty of her salvation, came often to our meetings that she might know better

"our Gospel." The reading of the New Testament made her realize the love of the Heavenly Father as manifested on Calvary and led her to the possession of the grace which pardons and saves. Like St. Paul, she said the scales had fallen from her eyes.

Another woman, an atheist-free-thinker, listened with interest to the explanation of salvation as told her by one of our friends out of his own experience and finally came to the service at the church. The cordiality of her reception, the simplicity of the service, the message of the Gospel heard for the first time as it is preached by us greatly moved her and, like Lydia, her heart has been opened and today she sings with a new-found faith, "Nothing, O Jesus, but Thy Grace."

Aside from our regular church services, we open our doors at different times to the general public and so the church becomes a veritable "McAll hall." This happened many times during the year, notably on All Saints Day. The entire afternoon of November first, assisted by our converts and other friends, we sang hymns of consolation, read from the Gospel and made our own personal testimony before successive audiences of passersby. These were attentive not only, but showed their gratitude by expressing their thanks for the opportunity which was offered them. As the result, several new persons were added to our congregation and it has been my privilege since to meet often in the streets and to talk freely with many of these listeners of a day.

LE LEGUE has been a source of much joy notwithstanding the opposition to our work. Our school has grown in numbers, a fact which means that new members will be added to us and thus assure the future of the work. It is a curious and sad fact that the wine merchants and the *curé* join forces against us. Nobody is ever excluded from the mass because of drunkenness, but if he is known to have crossed the threshold of our Protestant hall where we have the joy of making drunkards into sober men then he will be excommunicated.

One of our little boys, a child of ten, came to the *Ecole de Garde* and designed a house which corresponded to his ideal. The model was very pretty and the house well conceived. His teacher said to him, "But now you must put on some outside

decorations." A few minutes later the little gentleman returned with an air of triumph, having put a bouquet of mistletoe over the door. Everybody knows that this is the insignia over all the saloons in Brittany! What an idea then for this child of ten. To work to change this mentality and to develop habits of sobriety among the children is a large part of our daily task. We labor at this not without joy and with a degree of success.

One of our happiest experiences was in the conversion of a distressed soul, a fisherman and handy-man of the port. Every year he makes the trip to the banks of Newfoundland. For a long time he has come irregularly to our meetings and reads our literature. But, a captive to his surroundings and a slave to his passion for strong drink, he did not feel himself capable of making the effort of will necessary for his emancipation. One Sunday afternoon, however, he came with one of our members who is the head of a little group which meets to read and study the Bible. To this friend the poor man recounted his misery and his desire to be cured of his bad habits. One of our converts told him his own experience and in response to the prayers of the group peace and joy entered his heart. This new convert has now gone on the long and monotonous fishing trip to Iceland where his testimony may bear much fruit.

God be praised, the Cross is still standing in an atmosphere of as little promise as that of Legue and is the power of God for the salvation of the seemingly most hopeless.

At Guingamp our meetings and visits continue to meet with success. It is now some years since we were occupied one day in putting up handbills to announce the meeting to be held in the *Semeuse*, then at Sainte-Croix, and a town-sergeant, a former sailor, a straight-forward and sincere man, believing that he would be serving God by obeying his church, after we left proceeded to tear off our posters. Sometime later his wife, curious to know for herself what our meetings were like, came one evening and on going home recounted to her husband her astonishment at hearing the reading of the Bible. Her heart was deeply stirred and her husband, in turn, decided to investigate for himself. He was very much touched and today, although he has not broken with his church, he is one

of our best listeners and has shown his gratitude and joy by inviting us often to his table to talk at greater length on the truths of the Gospel.

The *Semeuse* is continuing its advance guard work and wherever it has been taken it has given us an opportunity to evangelize crowds who are made up of all classes of society who come first of all to discover what takes place in a chapel on wheels. As in the past, our meetings have been held weekly, with New Testaments, religious papers and tracts distributed or sold. At one town we were almost swamped by the curious crowds, but, although these diminished, the hall continued to be well filled and a real interest maintained. An innovation this year was the experiment of preaching in the open air. Our meetings differed little in character from those under cover and not only was there not the least disorder, but even respect and attention marked always the attitude of our listeners who were often present in large numbers. And so to the glory of the Master this innovation in our mission work has proved a blessing and as was said by one of our friends, "You have neither a proprietor to reckon with nor rent to pay."

By means of the motor in the weekly fairs and monthly markets round about, we have been able to place Gospels, tracts and other literature in some of the most remote villages in the country. Often too as the crowds have massed about our machine we have been able to give talks and make explanations to many who have listened with curiosity and with evident attention.

As a whole, the year's activity has been the greatest and the happiest of any year to date. If at large Brittany is still sitting in the shadows of death, not a few souls have seen the true light.

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The *Nouvelles de la Cause*, in a recent issue, prints the following appealing letter:

I ask you most seriously, even with tears, to remember our marvelous, beautiful and picturesque Brittany and every day to offer this prayer: "Oh Lord, bless Brittany and may Christ dwell in every Breton heart." Brittany, the land of beautiful legends, the land of the

enchantress, sweet as the smile of a mother, \* \* \* a hospitable and generous country, its moors covered with flowers of gold which give so much charm and sweet melancholy. \* \* \* Ah, if Brittany could give her heart to Jesus Christ, leaving behind her all her superstitions, her errors, her drunkenness and her unbelief, she would be truly an earthly paradise, so honest and generous is the Breton heart, so given to hospitality and disposed to listen to the Gospel!

But, alas, where are the workers? The harvest is truly great, but those who garner it are so few in number and notwithstanding their courage and their good will the men and women of this old province are submerged and succumb under their hard labor.

Let us hear again the word of the Lord, "Give them what thou hast."

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### FRENCH PROTESTANTISM

D. L. RITCHIE

(Readers of the RECORD whose thoughts turn to religious conditions in France will find the following from a recent number of *The Congregationalist* of interest.—EDITOR.)

Protestantism in France can work only as leaven in the meal. It numbers something more than a million, or one-fortieth of the population of France proper, so that fidelity in witness-bearing must make up for lack of numbers. Because of the drift of the population towards the southwest, it is losing strength in its ancient stronghold in the southwest, but it is gaining in the industrial north and in suburban Paris. As in Romanism, so in Protestantism; the war made terrible inroads on the young ministry, on the student body and on the young and chivalrous who today have been made the young ministry. It is heart-moving to visit the churches and there read the long honor rolls of those "who died for France." It looks as if young Protestantism had leaped to arms and hastened to pour out its life to the last full measure of devotion. Much has been heard of the sacrifices of the priests, but without invidious comparison where all were gallant those of young Protestantism were none the less heroic. The result is that today the Protestant churches are short of at least one hundred ministers. Where work is necessarily far-flung and scattered, that is a severe handicap on churches, however devoted their members may be.

There is also the financial burden. The latter is true of all European Protestantism, so that whatever the wealthy

Western world, which was only scratched by the war, can do to help now, would only be seizing a strategic hour to repay a great debt. One is not unmindful that this matter has had the attention of the Federal Council of Churches, but wealthy America ought to know how urgent is the call for help, and how she can crown other services generously rendered by generous Christian help now. "Lafayette we are here," said General Pershing as the American troops stepped upon French soil, and it was one of the deathless words of the Great War; "Coligny we are here," ought now to be said by American Protestantism, so that in another and nobler warfare those who have stood for the freedom of the soul at all hazards, may know in these days of stress and strain that their brethren in the faith have not forgotten how much they owe to France. After all, Calvin was a Frenchman and it is to that breed and creed with all its faults that North America must trace much that is worthiest in its moral manhood. It is well to remember the quarry from which our now polished stones were first hewn.

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#### NOTES FROM MARSEILLES

Despite the continuous handicap of the *Quai du Port* hall, so utterly inadequate both as to size and equipment, M. Sabliet carries on courageously and has many interesting instances of success of his work to recite.

Referring to the Mothers' Meetings he says: "From the moral point of view, these meetings have taken on a marked character of mutual helpfulness. The women, for example, have worked for each other in the preparation of *layettes* which have been most welcome in certain homes." In regard to the Thursday School he writes: "Notwithstanding the tenacious efforts of the laic and Catholic *patronages*, our School maintains its faithful nucleus. From time to time some child leaves us to 'do his Cathechism,' but he often returns when this period is over, having found the atmosphere of the Mission lacking. The Vacation Colony has also created strong bonds between us and the children. The members of the Bible School have a strong missionary bent and in general

their enthusiasm for the hall and their affection for our co-workers have been efficacious influences in drawing fathers and mothers to us, many of these remaining heartily attached to the Mission. On Sunday afternoons often we have audiences of both parents and children who have come spontaneously and gladly to listen to the preaching of the Gospel."

In regard to the influence upon men, M. Sabliet continues: "The old saw that religion is intended for women only has been so often repeated that the men are the most difficult to reach. On this account, I am happy to emphasize the results of our efforts among them. Our Men's Circle inaugurated a year ago has ripened into a faithful group in which is seen the intensive character of our work. At the request of this group, half of our meetings are devoted to the study of spiritual problems and the answers which the Gospel furnishes to these. At the beginning of the year, a member of the group said to me, 'We must go further this year than last.' I at once responded to this desire and can report with joy the testimony of two members one of whom said, 'I feel that there is another man in me,' the other adding, 'Now I know in whom I have believed.' For many months I have seen the practical confirmation of these statements in the lives of these men.

"Of all the activities of which the *Quai du Port* hall is the field, the evangelistic service of Sunday afternoon open to the passing public gives us the greatest satisfaction. Always too small our hall has become absolutely inadequate. To preach the Gospel to the multitude is a joy, but to see the Divine Master, the Saviour of Souls, in one's audience is the greatest happiness that one can wish. Individual instances could be multiplied, but one ought to hear, for example, this woman bruised by life's trials and by illness ejaculate at the close of one of our meetings: 'I thank thee, O Lord, for having snatched me from the abyss.' One should have seen this other woman who has been coming to us for nearly eight months point out to us in her kitchen the spot where, after having listened to the Gospel appeal in the hall, she had received the assurance that God had pardoned her and to have heard her say in the simplest but most moving words, 'Since that day, I have not been the same person.' She has already

brought to us ten new auditors. One ought to have known this young girl, the maid of the aforesaid woman, to whom her father, having at first opposed her coming to us, indirectly rendered this testimony as to the good which she had received, in confiding to her his concern over his son, 'See if you cannot get him to go too. Perhaps that would change him.'

"Yes, one should see some of these stalks of wheat whose golden harvest is the Saviour's joy in order to appreciate the value of this magnificent field of Christian action, for he could not see this vision without repeating the well known phrase, 'If it did not exist, it would be necessary to create it.'

"So much for the past. As for the future, we shall apply to every branch of our work the marching order of our dear brother of the Men's Circle, 'We must go yet further!'"

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Mlle Martin adds this interesting "bit" in regard to her work at the *Salle Belle de Mai*:

"The attendance at the Thursday School has been increased thanks to the propaganda carried on by one of our new scholars. In a month this girl brought five new children to us, the proof of her own love for the school. On one occasion she came in late crying. When I asked her why she did it, she answered, 'I did not wash the dishes clean and my sister would not let me come.' The lessons are well learned and our explanations listened to with interest and attention. Following the story of the paralytic at Capernaum, a little gentleman of five who was not satisfied with the outcome of the story asked whether this man went home without saying thank-you! All the children are happy when they have accumulated enough good marks to receive copies of our little paper, of our Sunday School hymn book or of the New Testament. One of the biggest boys is awaiting with impatience the time when he shall have accumulated enough '*bons points*' to present his mother with a Bible 'which,' he added, 'will surprise her and make her happy because she has not a single point.'"

**ALL SAINTS DAY AT ST. OUEN CHAPEL**

PASTOR LOUIS BERTRAND

Beautiful weather. More people on the avenue than in former years, notwithstanding the three consecutive holidays coinciding with the All Saints Day fêtes.

Our regular colporteurs were on hand, one of these a convert of the old hall in the *Boulevard Barbès*, also the young people from the *Maison Verte*, Ménilmontant and Grenelle. Each of the three days there were two speakers and on Sunday a third. Short addresses were interspersed with songs. Friends of the Mission from the *Maison Verte*, Ménilmontant, *Pierre Levée*, the Blue Cross and the Clichy Church, the last named accompanying their pastor, M. Maroger, were on hand to provide the music. On All Saints Day itself, six hundred persons entered the chapel, the total for the three days reaching around one thousand. M. Ottmann, from the Sunday School Association, erected a booth in the court for the sale of Bibles. About fifteen hundred Gospels were distributed and nearly four thousand copies of the paper *Relèvement* and as many tracts, in front of the building and at the cemetery gate. A bulletin announcing all the meetings of the Mission in Paris and the suburbs was given with each tract, paper or Gospel handed out. For the most part, the tracts were graciously received, although one overheard such words as these, "Don't take that. It is a Protestant paper. It is doubtless published with German money, for Protestant means either German or American!" A woman said to one of the evangelists, "Without question, you are in the pay of Coty!" A man, on being offered a copy of *Relèvement*, asked, "Relieve what? Finances?" A young woman wanted to know if the paper was a fashion magazine! One of the colporteurs in front of the Chapel, to whom a man made a very rough reply to his invitation to enter, said, as he lifted his hat with a significant gesture, "As for me, Monsieur, my religion teaches me politeness!" A flower vendor came up to ask for a paper and tracts to take home to read. One man threw the paper angrily on the ground whereupon a younger man quickly picked it up and stopped to read it. In a moment he came into the Chapel and stayed to the end of the service.



The *Chapelle Evangélique* is the celebrated little church near the gate of the St. Ouen cemetery where Pastor Hirsch who, for thirty years, was the favorite preacher at the famous old *Salle Baltimore*, for the same period proclaimed the Gospel of consolation to those passing by to visit their dead. With Pastor Hirsch's death the building was redecorated and taken over by the Mission

## THE "BON MESSAGER" IN ANOTHER FLOOD

E. CHOLLET

At Boron, on the Oise, our "flame" was refreshed with waters from on high and from below. The river swell to menacing proportions and I passed nearly a month in the reeds. Some nights the tempest was more severe than anything I had ever experienced or imagined and I blessed God for the staunch boat and stout mooring materials. One can only know what such experiences are like by passing through them. The noises of the storm were impossible to describe. It was as though the Titans had given each other rendezvous about the vessel of the good God! As for myself, I may say in passing that I was serene and calm through it all, because of my consciousness of the presence of the Great Father, and my sleep was sweeter, doubtless, than that of many who live in stately palaces.

It was a disappointment not to be able to carry on my work in this so ignorant neighborhood, but it was necessary to get into winter quarters without delay and we went on to Beau-mont-sur-Oise. It would take too long to describe the difficulties one had to face, because of the successive swelling and sinking of the river, to give the public a chance to come on board. It was necessary to build provisional pontoons and then to alter these and even then one was not sure that the people could cross safely on them. However, despite all, we succeeded in gathering a goodly number of auditors and finally in creating a group of *habitués* among whom there are certainly some who have seized on the salvation which is in Jesus Christ. The local pastor of the neighborhood, M. Vienney, was particularly cordial and his coöperation was deeply appreciated. M. Bonifas, always the faithful friend of the *Bon Messager*, was at his best all through the campaign and already we see the fruit of his labor.

We had an opportunity also to re-establish relations with the first converts of Compiègne. The thing which contributed perhaps most of all to the success of our meetings was the care I was able to give to a large number of sufferers. This gave me the opportunity to extend invitations to our meetings and to

speak encouraging words in regard to Him Who came to heal the sick.

And what shall I say of the work outside? I visited in my motor four hundred villages and small communities where I made large distributions of tracts and other literature which were for the most part heartily welcomed. At factory gates and market-places I also had opportunities to speak, experiences which recalled the glorious days in the comradeship of M. Sainton.

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### AMIENS

PASTOR DONALD BRUCE

(Perhaps there is no instance so outstanding of the continuous and successful co-ordination of a Mission post with the local church as at Amiens. For over a quarter of a century, Pastor Bruce and members of his church have given of their time and strength to the *Maison Fraternelle* which, in turn, has been a constant feeder to the membership of the church.—EDITOR.)

The past year has continued the constant and cordial co-operation between the *Maison Fraternelle* and the Reformed Church. First of all, Mlle Flandrois is always supported at the evangelical gatherings on Wednesday evenings and at the Thursday afternoon Bible School by Mme Bruce and myself. Secondly, Mme Bruce, every Sunday, in the garden of the church (*la salle de la gerbe*) has a class which includes the girls both of the hall and of the church and thus creates a happy relationship between the two groups. Thirdly, as often as it is possible, the pastor of the church, who is also the President of the Men's Circle, meets with this group on Saturday evenings, when a member of the church also assists, and, finally, both the older and younger women of the church give their help at the Bible School and *patronage* of the Mission every Thursday afternoon.

To these exterior signs should be added the constant spiritual relations maintained by the exchange of visits and of intimate conversations which bring closer together the *habitués* of the hall and of the larger pastoral family. The better elements of the Thursday School are seen on Sunday mornings at the Church Bible School and follow also the course of religious instruction given by the pastor. The Church School

has an enrollment of 132 children, twenty-seven of whom come from the *Maison Fraternelle*. Not a few families who had left us have because of their children's attendance been themselves re-attached to the church. Out of the fifteen catechumens received into the church at Pentecost, five had gained their knowledge of the Gospel at the Mission's hall. The Deacon's Committee constantly looks after some of the children attached to the Mission whose health is broken and whose bodies are feeble. At the moment of writing, two little girls are being brought up under our oversight at the orphanage of Sedan and another is being cared for in the Children's Hospital, at Cayeux.

The Thursday School has prospered during the year rather more in regard to numbers than in spiritual results. It has, however, unquestionably been a means of blessing. The little girls are noisy, but sweet and obedient despite the faults of their age and of their sex.

Mme A. G..... of the church, who directs the manual training of these girls and provides out of her own purse the materials of which dresses and aprons are made, has found the way into their hearts. The little boys are rather rough and undisciplined although always respectful and polite and one can note their improvement in conduct as they open their hearts to our Bible instruction.

The children of the infant class are a nervous lot, a delightful though noisy crowd, but as a rule maintain a profound silence as Mme Bruce teaches them the lesson, or as they ply their little hands about the tables, or go through their kindergarten movements to music. The enrollment has grown to 150. On account of this we had to give up the Christmas celebration in the hall and rent a neighboring cinema establishment. Five hundred persons were crowded into this hall for the Christmas *fête*.

The evangelistic meetings on Wednesday nights average an attendance of fifty. We should like to see this number increased, but those who come are all alive to the meaning of the meeting and it is a truly fraternal gathering. Both before and after the service there are many opportunities for heart-to-heart talks.

The house-to-house visits to the homes of the children fall

entirely upon Mlle Flandrois, but the pastor's help and advice as well is often sought. These visits ought to be increased in number for a warm welcome is always awaiting us and doors open voluntarily and sometimes hearts as well.

Of the gatherings of the year of special import, I would cite two. The one profoundly and uniquely religious in character, directed toward God and toward Christ, the other devoted to the cultivation of fraternal and Christian love. The first of these was the meeting on Good Friday, with selected Bible readings on the Passion interspersed with hymns carefully prepared by the choir of the church and illustrated with lantern slides. In the silence and moving attention that this service draws forth, one feels the spiritual atmosphere of the sanctuary.

The second is the *fête* offered to the aged by the Y. P. S. C. E. This is held in the large *salle de la gerbe* and twenty of the old men and women of the *Maison Fraternelle* mingle affectionately with those of their age from the church. This year, after the rendition of several musical numbers and individual recitations, a group of young men gave with veritable art and in a splendid setting the "Miracle-des-Orgues." Following this, a repast was served and presents were distributed.

There is then a continuous exchange of visits, influences, of services rendered and received, of collaboration between the *Maison Fraternelle* and the Church, between the narrow, little *rue des Archers* and the *rue de Metz*. This exchange has never ceased to be of the very greatest interest as well as one of the greatest joys of my entire ministry. The church and its pastor express to the *Mission Populaire* their deep gratitude for this privilege.

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**A FEW RAYS OF SUNSHINE FALLEN OUT  
OF THE "CHARITY PURSE"**

MME A. ROUSTAIN

(From time to time American friends who have become especially interested in Mme Roustain's work send her donations which she is told to do with "whatever you wish." The following incidents are taken from some of her recent letters in acknowledgment of her gratitude for the help the Charity Purse has enabled her to render.—EDITOR.)

Little Claudia is nine years old. Her mother is suffering from a slow paralysis. At times she can just crawl about her

room, but oftener she sits in an old arm chair and with deformed fingers does a little knitting or crocheting. At best she manages to earn 33 francs a month. Claudia gets up early in the morning, sweeps the room, prepares what she can for her mother, then goes to school at 8:30. At 11:30, on her way back, she buys bread and the cheapest vegetables she can find, rushes up to prepare lunch and then is off again to school from 1:30 to 4 o'clock. It is she who does all the work at home, including the washing, ironing and cooking. She helps her mother to dress when the poor hands are unable to move. Despite all this, Claudia is nearly always at the head of her class! She has now a generous "Godmother" in America, but until the answer had come to my request, it was in the Charity Purse that I found the help needed to keep both mother and child from starvation.

In a small town lived a family composed of father, mother and three children of three years, two years and six months. The father, a steady, hard-working man, died after a short illness in February, 1929. When the funeral was over, there was nothing left in the house and the wretched young widow was so broken down that it was feared she would not survive her grief. Money from the Charity Purse was sent to the family to buy clothes for the poor little ones. Their names are on the adoption waiting list.

A friend spoke to me of a sick girl who had no relatives but an aged grandmother who is very poor. The girl loves to read, but has no books and days are long on a hospital bed. So four dollars were given to my friend to buy books and wholesome food now and then to carry to the hospital. Other sums have been used in similar ways for other sick children.

Widow B..... is an aged grandmother who has brought up her two grandchildren (war orphans). The youngest, a boy of twelve, never worked much at school, so it was decided he should be placed in an establishment as apprentice gardener. But he was in great need of new clothes and shoes, having outgrown all he had. Here again was a dive into that blessed purse and the boy had a fine new suit and good shoes when he went to his new home.

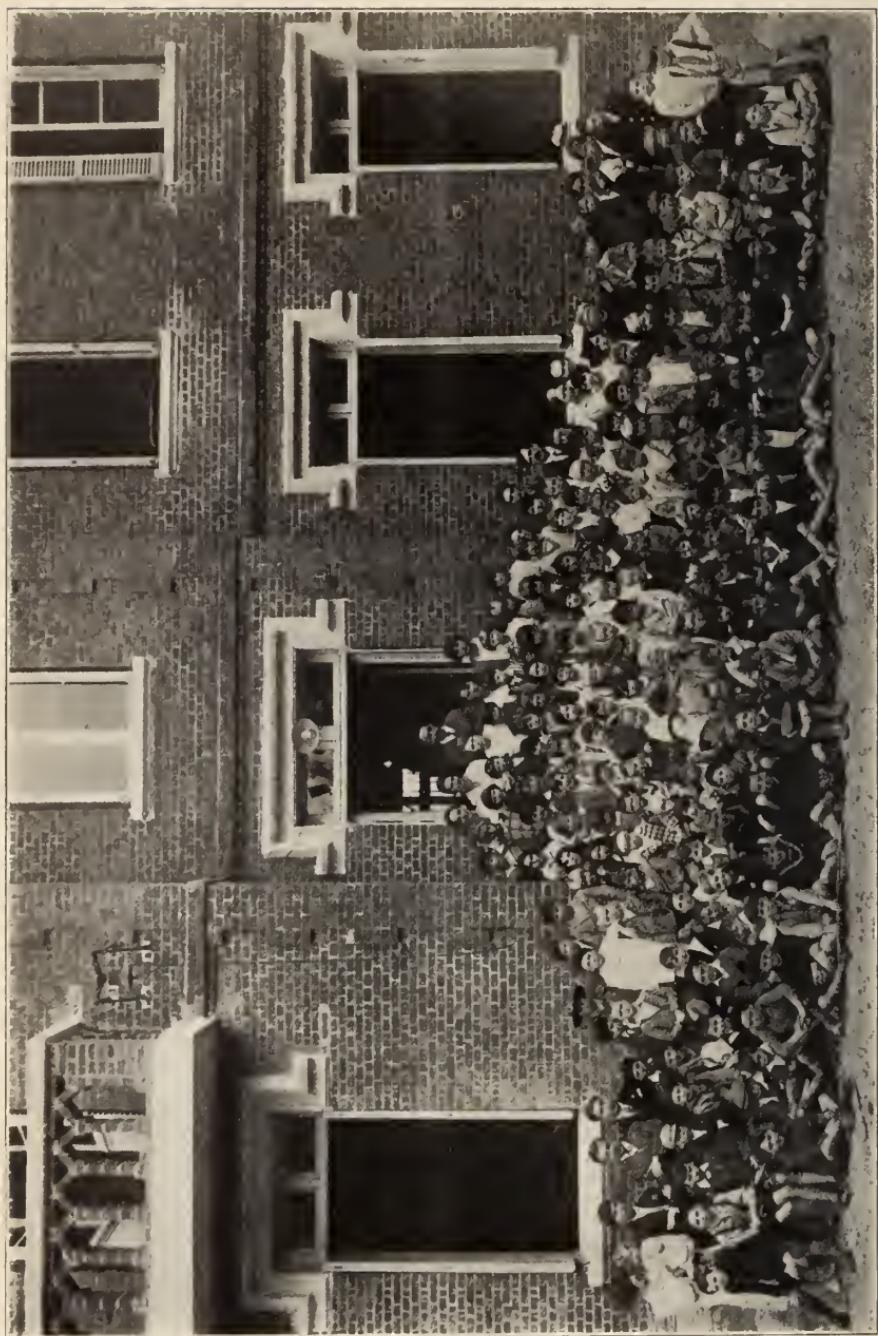
When in the country this summer I was told of a young

woman entirely paralyzed and in the hospital. A friend of mine often visits her and takes her a few dainties which she is obliged to put into the poor creature's mouth herself, as the paralyzed hands cannot move at all. But my friend works hard for her own living, so I gave her four dollars (100 francs) to use for this poor, infirm woman.

Then again help was given to a widow whose husband had died recently as the result of being gassed on the battle-field and who leaves three young children; to a widow just out of the hospital and still too weak to resume work; to two dear little girls whose father died six years ago from the effects of the war and whose mother died a fortnight since. They were left penniless and almost without clothes, so it was with great pleasure that I was able to help in buying shoes and a warm dress for each.

We have now at Châtillon a little girl of ten years who has no mother. She was with her father up to last June, then he fell ill and is still unfit to work. He cannot pay anything for the child, so it is with the Charity Purse that I pay her board in our orphan home. Several other children's holidays were completed and lengthened thanks to the same treasure.

A dear young friend, the daughter of one of our ministers, fell ill about two months ago and I often visit her, as she lives quite near my home. One evening I found her in tears, for the doctor had just told her that she must undergo an operation for which she had not the funds. Her father had spent nearly all he had in caring for his wife who died a few months ago. You can imagine how happy it made me to be able to tell this dear girl that I could see her through the hospital, because of a gift recently received from America to do "what I wished with." Twenty dollars (500 francs) paid her hospital bills and the surgeon, on learning the girl's financial straits, refused to accept a fee. I had often preached courage and confidence in God to my young friend, but she was so down-hearted that she almost doubted the Heavenly Father's care. With her health restored, her faith has come back, as she expresses it, "You always told me He would provide and He has provided."



M. LeGoff, of Arcueil, standing in the doorway of the Vacation Colony at Coqueréaumont at the top of the pyramid formed by his helpers and the children who had the benefit last summer of a six-weeks' stay in this Normandy retreat

**JUNIOR NEWS**

The past weeks have been busy ones in Junior McAll. Miss Congdon, Junior Field Secretary, has spoken to groups in Albany, Troy, Schenectady, Westerly, Orange, Larchmont and Flushing and her future itinerary includes Syracuse, Rochester, Utica, Wilkes-Barre, Scranton, Binghamton, Elmira, New Britain, Detroit, Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis, Madison and Milwaukee.

Miss Williams, Junior Headquarters Secretary, has spoken in Basking Ridge, N. J. As one of their four Lenten Journeys, the Girls' Friendly Society of Rhode Island are to travel to the Vacation Colonies with Miss Williams on April 12th, at their meeting to be held at the Cathedral of St. John, in Providence.

Plans for the Annual Meeting, in Philadelphia, are fast being made, with Mrs. Lawrence C. Hickman as Chairman of Junior Hospitality. The Get-together Dinner, on Tuesday evening, May 6th, is to be an intriguing and novel affair.

The foundations of Junior McAll have been firmly established this year with the groups already formed and many more are now in the making.

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In writing of the *Ecole de Garde* at *Pierre Levée*, Mme Vachon, after reciting the ups and downs of her work among the undisciplined lot of children of different ages, the comparative ease of managing the girls, the skill of many of the boys in "inventing" trouble for her, the brightness of many little minds, the stupidity of others, like the little girl who bursts into tears every time she has to do a sum in arithmetic, concludes her story thus: "It is truly touching to see how attached to their school many of these children, even the little devils among them, are. One of the latter, faced with the prospect of a stay in a preventorium, said to me, 'It is not the leaving that I mind; what hurts me is quitting the Mission.' When I replied, 'But you have been a naughty boy many times,' he replied, 'That does not count, for I love you just the same and I believe you love me because you have endured my tricks!'"

**RECEIPTS OF THE AMERICAN McALL ASSOCIATION  
FROM AUXILIARIES AND CHURCHES**

**February 4—April 4, 1930—\$44,888.97**

MASSACHUSETTS, \$3,592.10		PENNSYLVANIA (Continued)	
Boston Auxiliary .....	\$2,756 60	French History Club .....	90 00
Lexington .....	86 50	Harrisburg Y. W. C. A. Polly- anna Girl Reserves .....	2 25
Northampton Auxiliary .....	50 00	Philadelphia Auxiliary .....	4,225 30
Pittsfield Auxiliary .....	338 00	Philadelphia Junior Auxiliary .....	200 00
Springfield Auxiliary .....	261 00	Rainbow Club of Wayne .....	39 20
Worcester Auxiliary .....	100 00	Pittsburgh Auxiliary .....	2,101 00
CONNECTICUT, \$3,776.08		Pittsburgh Junior Auxiliary .....	50 00
Hartford Auxiliary .....	\$584 50	Sewickley Auxiliary .....	1,286 40
Hartford Junior Auxiliary .....	325 00	Harriet Pratt Clarke Me- morial .....	763 60
Meriden Auxiliary .....	400 00	Mary Jennings Memorial .....	500 00
Meriden Junior Auxiliary .....	40 00	Williamsport .....	3 00
New Britain Auxiliary .....	236 00	Wilkes-Barre Auxiliary .....	391 00
New Haven Auxiliary .....	1,947 98	DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, \$1,028.00	
New Haven Fram .....	38 00	Washington Auxiliary .....	\$1,028 00
Norwich Auxiliary .....	204 60	OHIO, \$215.00	
NEW YORK, \$11,914.94		Cincinnati .....	\$215 00
Albany .....	\$100 00	MARYLAND, \$1,863.00	
Brooklyn Auxiliary .....	3,147 00	Baltimore Auxiliary .....	\$1,488 00
Buffalo Auxiliary .....	1,047 00	Grace Winchester Fisher Me- morial .....	375 00
Buffalo Junior Auxiliary .....	900 00	RHODE ISLAND, \$135.00	
Student McAll Buffalo .....	20 00	Providence Auxiliary .....	\$75 00
Buffalo Children's Auxiliary .....	78 00	Providence Junior Auxiliary .....	60 00
Flushing Junior Auxiliary .....	72 00	ILLINOIS, \$1,150.00	
Ithaca Circle .....	450 43	Chicago .....	\$1,000 00
Larchmont Auxiliary .....	207 00	Lake Forest .....	150 00
New York Auxiliary .....	4,465 25	MICHIGAN, \$210.00	
New York Boat Benefit Com- mittee .....	730 76	Detroit Auxiliary .....	\$210 00
West End Presbyterian Church N. Y. C. Primary Children of Week Day School of Religion .....	11 00	CALIFORNIA, \$2.00	
Rochester Auxiliary .....	501 50	Pasadena .....	\$2 00
Syracuse Friends .....	40 00	FLORIDA, \$36.00	
Troy Auxiliary .....	140 00	Mt. Dora .....	\$36 00
Utica Friend .....	5 00	DELAWARE, \$154.00	
NEW JERSEY, \$8,104.35		Wilmington .....	\$154 00
Belvidere Auxiliary .....	\$111 00	MINNESOTA, \$1,112.00	
Chatham .....	100 00	Minneapolis Auxiliary .....	\$679 50
Elizabeth Auxiliary .....	1,376 49	Minneapolis Junior Auxiliary .....	3 00
Englewood .....	155 00	St. Paul Auxiliary .....	429 50
Montclair Auxiliary .....	1,699 06	Per National Children's Auxili- ary .....	\$129 00
Newark Auxiliary .....	758 00	Per National Juniors .....	452 00
Maplewood Fram .....	50 00	Per The Needlework Guild of America .....	188 00
New Brunswick Auxiliary .....	1,480 55	Per Sale of Christmas Cards .....	116 00
Auxiliary of the Oranges .....	490 62	Per Sale of Poulbot Cards .....	49 50
Plainfield Auxiliary .....	1,793 13		
Princeton Circle .....	22 50		
Princeton .....	18 00		
Trenton Auxiliary .....	50 00		
PENNSYLVANIA, \$10,662.00			
Bloomsburg .....	\$500 00		
Chambersburg .....	36 00		
Chester Auxiliary .....	234 50		
Easton Auxiliary .....	239 75		

**FORM OF BEQUEST FOR REAL ESTATE**

I do give and devise to the American McAll Association the following described property.

**FORM OF BEQUEST FOR PERSONAL ESTATE**

I do give, devise and bequeath to the American McAll Association the sum of

dollars.

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